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BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY

KENT

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AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1963

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BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY (KENT)

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and
of the Public Health Inspector for the Year 1963

- - - - - -

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1963.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 2,960 which was an increase of 220 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 59 (33 M. 26 F.) which was an increase of 3 from that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 20.27, after adjustment by the Registra General's Comparability factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows valid comparison with other Districts the rate becomes 22.70; this being higher than that of 18.2 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

Two stillbirths were registered and the corresponding rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 32,79, compared with that of 17.3 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality and Rate

Two infant deaths were registered and the Infantile Mortality Rate was accordingly 33.90 in comparison with that of 20.9 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were:-

i. Prematurity
Intracranial Haemorrhage.
Breech delivery.

ii. Cardiac failure
Endo-myocardial

(These figures, however, are too small for valid statistical comparisons).

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil as there were no maternal deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion and is a general index of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 39 (27 M. 12 F.) and the crude death rate was 13.18, which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes 11.20 compared with that of 12.2 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was from the natural causes of death amongst the aged, i.e. Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System, of which there were 23 in number.

Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of six deaths, all male, in the following age groups:- 4 between 65 - 75 yrs. and 2 over 75 years.

Cancer was the cause of eight deaths in the following age groups:- 5 between 55 - 64 yrs., and 3 between 65 - 74 years.

Cancer of the Lungs and Bronchus caused two of those deaths, in the following age groups:- 1 between 55 - 64 yrs. and 1 between 65 - 74 years.

Cancer of the stomach was the cause of three of those deaths in the following age groups:- 2 between 55 - 64 yrs., 1 between 65 - 74 yrs.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no exceptional mortality.

Infectious Diseases

Apart from the bi-ennial outbreak of Measles, the incidence of Infectious Diseases was very low.

None of the more serious infections, such as Poliomyelitis, Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers, Diphtheria, Bacterial Meningitis and others, was notified.

Measles

The expected bi-ennial outbreak of Measles occurred, 125 cases having been notified, but there were no deaths. The more serious complications of former years, namely Broncho pneumonia, Acute Suppurative Otitis Media, and rarely Acute Encephalitis, are now relatively infrequent and when the former two occur, treatment with Antibiotics is usually specific.

Whooping Cough

Only four cases were notified, which may be attributed to the vaccination scheme. The conquest of this distressful and dangerous children's disease would be an important milestone in the progress of medical science.

Scarlet Fever

One sporadic case of this infection was notified. In contrast with former years, the virulence of this infectious disease has declined and the majority of cases are now treated at home. The serious complications of former years namely Carditis, Acute Suppurative Otitis Media, and Acute Nephritis are comparatively infrequent, although the latter occurs unexpectedly from time to time.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Six cases of this illness were notified. Including the secondary Pneumonias, which are not notifiable, there were no deaths, in all probability due to specific treatment with the Sulpha drugs or Antibiotics.

Tuberculosis

It is noteworthy to record that no new cases of Respiratory and non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified.

Also there were no deaths which is a reflection of the efficacy of modern treatment.

In conclusion, I would state that the Public Health of the Borough was very satisfactory throughout the year, and also I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your interest in the Department and the staff for their co-operation and efficiency.

I am,

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Rd.,
Ashford.

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1963

Area:- 1,514 acres

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	2,960
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books ...	1,189
Rateable Value	£115,456
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£442

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SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The ancient and historical Cinque Port of New Romney, is today predominantly an Agricultural District. There are also with the Borough the workshops of the Romney, Hythe, Dymchurch Light Railway and a few small factories. Part of the boundary is formed by the sea at Littlestone and Greatstone where there are wide expanses of sand which attract many summer visitors and holiday-makers. There is almost no unemployment and social conditions may generally be regarded as being satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		Total	M.	F.		New Romney Borough	England and Wales
1.	Live Births	59	33	26	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	20.27 (Adjusted Rate 22.70)	18.2
	(a) Legitimate	55	31	24			
	(b) Illegitimate	4	2	2			
2.	Stillbirths	2	-	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	32.79	17.3
	(a) Legitimate	2	-	2			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3.	Total live and stillbirths	61	33	28			
4.	Deaths	39	27	12	Death rate per 1,000 resident Population	13.18 (Adjusted Rate 11.20)	12.2
5.	Deaths from Pregnancy Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	Not Available
6.	Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	33.90	20.9
	(a) Legitimate	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	36.36	
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	
7.	Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age	1	1	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	16.95	Not available
	(a) Legitimate	1	1	-			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8.	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births					6.78%	
9.	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					8	
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					-	
	Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..					-	
	Deaths from Measles					-	

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	1
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	6
Whooping Cough	4
Measles	125

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEW ROMNEY BOROUGH

DURING 1963

		Males	Females
	ALL CAUSES	27	12
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	1
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	1
18.	Coronary disease, angina	6	-
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
20.	Other Circulatory Disease	1	2
21.	Other heart disease	4	4
22.	Influenza	2	-
23.	Pneumonia	-	-
24.	Bronchitis	2	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	1	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	-
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34.	All other accidents	1	-
35.	Suicide	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1963

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Total Cases on Register			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	1	-
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1963 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in Combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in Combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary
1963	26	Nil	24
1962	26	1	26
1961	4	18	4
1960	Nil	14	Nil
1959	Nil	4	Nil
1954-1958	1	29	Nil
1949-1953	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	57	76	54

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1963 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health

Year	2 Injections (SALK)	3rd Dose (SALK and ORAL)	4th Dose (SALK and ORAL)	3 ORALS (Complete Course)
1963	-	1	43	6
1962	-	-	-	40
1961	-	1	-	9
1957-1960	-	1	-	4
1943-1956	-	-	-	1
1933-1942	2	1	-	3
Others	1	1	-	-

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

PRIMARY VACCINATION 1 YEAR	RE-VACCINATION SCHOOL AGE BUT UNDER 8 YEARS
12	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water supplied to the area is adequate and the supply is not plumbo-solvent.

(A) Examination of Water Supplies during the year

	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No. of Samples	Satis-factory	Not Satis-factory	No. of Samples	Satis-factory	Not Satis-factory
Statutory supply undertakings	1	1	-	-	-	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private sources	-	-	-	-	-	-

(B) (i) Number of dwellings not supplied by public water mains or other adequate piped supplies. ... Nil

(ii) Number of dwellings on the area ... 1,073

(iii) Number of houses supplied from standpipes - Holiday shacks - Estimate - 20

(C) Brief details as to extensions of water mains during the year:-

Rolfe Lane 50 yards of 3" diameter
Blenheim Road - 180 yards 4" diameter
Mountfield Road - 25 yards of 3" diameter

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Reference to any additions or improvements in respect of sewerage systems or sewage disposal works and also to new schemes constructed during the year.

Queens Road - 337 yards of 6" diameter relief sewer
Greatstone - sea outfall pumping station put into commission by Kent River Board.

FOOD (INCLUDING ICE CREAM AND MILK) AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

(i) (a) the number of food premises in the area ... 42

(b) the number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955

(i) Retailers of Ice Cream ... 32

(ii) Preparation and manufacture of Sausages and Preserved Foods Etc. ... 2

(c) the number of inspections of registered food premises ... 15

(d) the method of disposal of condemned food -

Burial at refuse tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of inspections of:-

Butchers and meat products manufacturers	12
Catering Establishment and Clubs	3
Dairies	8
Fish (including fried)	1
Licensed Premises	3
Stalls, Itinerant Vendors and delivery vans	2
All other Food Premises	5

Number of Informal (including Verbal) Notices Served (Food and Drugs Act - Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955) -

Number of Food Premises improved as a result of notices served -

Inspection of Food and Food Preparing Premises

Observations on manufacture and sale of ice-cream in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1959.

One retail shop started selling soft ice cream.

Milk and Dairies

(1) Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 (Part 111)
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 (Part 111)

No. of registered distributors ... 6

No. of registered dairies ... -

SUMMARY OF MILK SAMPLING (INFORMAL) for the purposes of Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

	No. of Samples taken	No. of Samples which failed
Pasteurised Milk	4	Phosphatase test Nil M.B. test: Nil
Sterilised Milk	-	Turbidity test: Nil
Tuberculin Tested (raw)	-	M.B. test: Nil

Number of Slaughter-houses in use

Slaughter-houses/Abattoirs in operation owned or leased by Local Authority	Private Slaughter-houses Licensed	Private Slaughter-houses Operating	Bacon Factories	Knackers' Yards
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Unsound Food Surrendered

		lbs.
Canned Pork Luncheon Meat	...	4
Chilled Beef - Topside	...	22½
Scotch Beef- Hindquarter	...	83
Pigs Head	...	17
		126½

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. Houses Demolished In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons	Displaced during year Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	-	-	-
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed	Number
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	-
(6) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-
(7) Parts of buildings closed under (Section 18, Housing Act, 1957)	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by local authority	4	-
(9) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(10) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957		

D. Unfit Houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of year	No. of houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48	-	-
(b) Under Section 17(2)	-	-
(c) Under Section 46	-	-
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	-	-

E. Purchase of Houses by agreement	No. of houses (1)	No. of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year.	-	-

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS (GRANTS)

No. of applications received	3
No. Approved	4
No. Grants paid	2
Total Cost	£295

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Public Health Act, 1936 and Housing Act, 1957

Number of inspections of dwellings re repairs	...	15
Number of dwellings made fit	...	4
Number of inspections for purposes of Sections 16/17 Housing Act. (Demolition and Closing Orders)	...	3
Number of inspections of clearance areas	...	Nil

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Housing Subsidies and Standard Grant

Number of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants		Nil
Number of inspections in connection with Standard Grants		10

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and Rents Act, 1957

Number of inspections re Certificates of Disrepair	...	Nil
Number of inspections re Certificates as to Remedying of Defects	...	Nil

Housing (General)

Number of inspections re housing applications	...	Nil

Public Health Act

Number of inspections re:-

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	2
Aged and Infirm Persons	...	-
Vermin	...	2
Dirty Houses	...	2
Offensive accumulations	...	1
Offensive odours	...	1
Nuisance from Keeping of Animals	...	1

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts	3	-
Housing Acts	Nil	Nil

HOUSING

(i) No. of families on Council's waiting list at 31-12-63	50
(ii) No. of Council houses built during the year	Nil
(iii) No. of Private houses built during the year	69

CARAVAN SITES

Names and addresses of Caravan Sites and number of Caravans on each site:-

New Romney Caravan Sites Ltd., Clark Road, Greatstone. 135 Holiday Caravans
Bartons Garage, Lydd Road. 3 (Unlicensed) Residential

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

1 Vehicle was acquired for standby peak period use. Disposal partly by land and partly into public sewer.

DRAINAGE

Total number of inhabited houses (including Flats) at April, 1963	1,189
Total number of houses connected to the sewers	638
Number of houses not connected to the sewers	551
Number of premises connected to cesspools and other forms	531
Number of premises with pail closets (holiday shacks) estimated	20

REFUSE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL

One rear loading gravity packing vehicle of 10 cub. yard capacity is employed full time with 3 men for collection. Disposal by crude tipping into disused gravel pit.

SALVAGE

A proportion of paper and cardboard is collected and baled.

DISINFECTION

None was necessary during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3, 4 and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	6	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	20	3	-	-
Total	33	9	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS There are no Outworkers in the District.

RODENT CONTROL

		TYPE OF PROPERTY: Non-Agricultural (1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District		5	1189	228	1422	2
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification		-	17	-	17	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by						
Common Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	13	-	13	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House Mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	2	-	2	-
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act						
Common Rat	Major	1	-	-	1	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House Mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-

		TYPE OF PROPERTY				
		Non-Agricultural				
		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (inc. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricul-tural
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose		5	125	35	165	2
Common Rat	Major	1	-	-	1	-
	Minor	-	1	-	-	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House Mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
5. Total inspections carried out incl. re-inspections		7	14	-	48	-
6. Number of infested properties (in. Secs. 1. 2, 3 & 4 treated by L.A.		2	17	-	19	-
7. Total treatments carried out incl. re-treatments		4	20	-	24	-
8. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act: (a) Treatment		-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work		-	-	-	-	-
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4. of the Act.		-	-	-	-	-
10. Legal proceedings		-	-	-	-	-

11. Where legal proceedings have been instituted by the Local Authority brief particulars should be given here --- NIL ---

12. Any other points of interest - The sewers being clear of rats no surface infestations emanate from this reservoir.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
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